

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A toner cartridge comprising:
a photoconductor drum; and
a removable cover attachable to said photoconductor drum for isolating said photoconductor drum from at least one other component of said toner cartridge.
2. The toner cartridge of claim 1 wherein said removable cover comprises a flexible electro-static shield.
3. The toner cartridge of claim 2 wherein said shield is foam;
4. The toner cartridge of claim 1 wherein said removable cover comprises a non-conductive layer and a conductive layer.
5. The toner cartridge of claim 1 wherein said removable cover further comprises a tab for removal of said removable cover from said photoconductor drum.
6. The toner cartridge of claim 1 wherein said removable cover further includes an electrical connection from said removable cover to a ground.
7. The toner cartridge of claim 1 further including at least one of a primary charge roller, cleaning blade, blow-out seal, developer, and transfer roller.
8. The toner cartridge of claim 6 wherein said removable cover isolates said photoconductor drum from any included ones of the primary charger roller, cleaning blade, blow-out seal, developer, and transfer roller.
9. The toner cartridge of claim 1 further comprising a development unit including:
a toner hopper for storing toner therein; and
a sealing strip removably secured to said toner hopper for temporarily sealing said hopper to prevent the discharge of the toner therefrom, said sealing strip being adapted for removal by an operator.

10. The toner cartridge of claim 8 further comprising a connection between said sealing step and said removable cover which allows said sealing strip and said removable cover to be removed at the same time.

11. The toner cartridge of claim 1 wherein said removable cover overlays at least fifty percent of an outer surface area of said organic photoconductor.

12. A method of reducing electrostatic charge on a selected component of a toner cartridge, said method including the steps of:

isolating said selected component from other components of said toner cartridge with a removable cover; and

removing said removable cover from said selected component prior to insertion of said toner cartridge into an image device.

13. The toner cartridge 12 wherein said selected component is a photoconducting roller.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of isolating further comprises the step of:

attaching a flexible electro-static shield to an exterior surface of said selected component.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of isolating further comprises a step of: attaching a removable cover including a non-conductive layer and a conductive layer to an exterior surface of said selected component.

16. The method of claim 12 further including the steps of:

mating said selected component to a development unit including a toner hopper for storing toner; and

removably securing a sealing strip to said toner hopper to prevent a discharge of the toner therefrom.

17. The method of claim 16, including the step of:

concurrently removing said sealing strip and said removable cover.

18. A toner cartridge comprising:
a housing;
a development unit including a toner supply hopper and a development roller;
a cleaning unit including a waste hopper, a wiper blade, a cleaning blade and a blow-out blade;
a primary charge roller;
a transfer roller;
an organic photoconductor; and
a removable cover isolating said organic photoconductor from at least one of said primary charge roller, cleaning blade, blow-out seal, developer roller and transfer roller.

19. The toner cartridge of claim 18 wherein:
said removable cover comprises a flexible electro-static shield including a film having an inner non-conductive layer and an outer conductive layer electrically connectable to a ground.

20. The toner cartridge of claim 18 wherein:
said removable cover is connected to a removable seal on said toner hopper.